## Message Text

## CONFIDENTIAL

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 MCT-01 HA-05 /082 W

-----114651 260351Z/13

R 251515Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9996
INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI
AMCONSUL BUKAVU POUCH

CONFIDENTIAL KINSHASA 5372

AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE POUCH

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, MOPS, AO, CG

SUBJECT: REPORTED FRONTIER INCIDENT BETWEEN ANGOLA AND ZAIRE

REF: KINSHASA 4143

1. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED REPORTS FROM VARIOUS SOURCES OF CLASH BETWEEN ANGOLAN GOVERNMENT FORCES (FAPLA) AND UNITS OF THE REBEL NATIONAL FRONT FOR THE LIBERATION OF ANGOLA (FNLA) DURING NIGHT OF MAY 22-23. CLASH TOOK PLACE ON AND NEAR FRONTIER AREA SOUTH OF KIMPESE IN SONGOLOLO ZONE, BAS ZAIRE REGION. FAPLA UNIT ENCOUNTERED FNLA FORCE ON ANGOLAN TERRITORY. RESULTING IN RUNNING GUN BATTLE AS FNLA RETREATED INTO ZAIRE. FINALLY FNLA UNIT TOOK REFUGE IN A VILLAGE ON ZAIRIAN SIDE OF BORDER (IN THE GENERAL AREA OF SONGA VILLAGE, BUT WE DO NOT HAVE EXACT COORDINATES OR THE NAME OF THE VILLAGE). BATTLE CONTINUED IN AND AROUND VILLAGE UNTIL FAPLA UNIT WITHDREW BACK INTO ANGOLA. REPORTS INDICATE AT LEAST 13 VILLAGERS KILLED AND UNKNOWN NUMBER WOUNDED. WE HAVE NO INFORMATION AS TO NUMBER CONFIDENTIAL.

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OF CASUALTIES AMONG FNLA AND FAPLA COMBATANTS.

2. COMMENT: EMBASSY DOES NOT BELIEVE THERE IS ANY DIRECT CONNECTION BETWEEN INCIDENT AND RECENT FIGHTING IN SHABA. SUCH INCIDENTS HAVE OCCURRED RATHER FREQUENTLY IN PAST MONTHS AS A RESULT OF FAPLA'S OPERATIONS AGAINST REMAINING FNLA AREAS IN NORTHERN ANGOLA. LOCAL POPULATION IN AREA OF THIS INCIDENT BELIEVE THIS

WAS IN RETALIATION FOR FNLA'S SHOOTING DOWN FAPLA HELICOPTER
AND ITS CUBAN CREW AND PASSENGERS TWO WEEKS AGO.
CUTLER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

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TAGS: PINS, MOPS, AO, CG

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Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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